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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/580,690

05/26/2006

Ryuya Koike

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EXAMINER

PENG, CHARLIE YU

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2883

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/02/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/580,690	Applicant(s) KOIKE ET AL.	
	Examiner CHARLIE PENG	Art Unit 2883	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 June 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed 16 June 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. Applicant amends claims to require an open electronic circuit opened at one location and argues that the Noguchi reference cited does not teach all the limitations of amended claim 1 since "the common electrode 10 forms a complete closed circuit around the parameter of the disclosed display matrix." The examiner respectfully disagrees with this interpretation of the Noguchi reference.
3. Noguchi teaches a matrix wiring circuit having non-linear resistance elements (e.g. 21, 22) for electrostatic discharge protection, wherein the resistance elements 21, 22 can exhibit a resistance of not less than 10 GΩ when a voltage is applied, thereby effectively creating an opened location at the resistance elements. (See at least Fig. 5 and description.) Secondly, in a separate embodiment as illustrated in Fig. 7, the wiring circuit is cut along lines connecting cut marks 12 in a late step so that the common electrodes 9, 10 are disconnected from gate and drain terminals while a plurality of non-linear elements 41, 42, 43 are used to connect the bus lines 3 and the drain lines 4. That is, the linear elements 41-43 function in the same manner as the elements 21, 22, and the closed circuit formed by the common electrodes 9, 10 no longer exist.
4. Furthermore, applicant has already pointed out that conventional art uses an open curve electronic circuit wiring to protect against electrostatic discharge as taught in cited Patent Documents 1 and 2. Merely reciting what is old and known in claims

without pointing out how it is critical to the novelty of invention is not a persuasive argument for allowability.

5. Finally, when amending claims, applicant should clearly indicate what is added (underline portion) and what is removed (strike-through or bracket portion) in the claims. For example, Claim 1 as amended should appear as "Open curve electronic [Electronic] circuit wiring..." to properly indicate the removal of the word "Electronic".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,220,443 to Noguchi. Noguchi teaches a matrix wiring substrate used as for example a drive electrode assembly of an active matrix liquid crystal display, and more specifically to a matrix wiring substrate having a common electrode for preventing an electrostatic breakdown or destruction in a manufacturing process. As illustrated by circuit diagrams, a plurality of first level wirings (gate bus lines 3) are provided on an insulating substrate; a plurality of second level wirings (drain bus lines 4) are provided on the insulating substrate to intersect the first level wirings at a intersection P, and an insulating layer are provided at the intersection P so as to electrically separate the first and second level wirings from each other. The wiring substrate further comprises: a number of pixel electrodes 1 corresponding to pixels of the liquid crystal display and

each associated with one TFT 2 for individually driving the corresponding pixel electrode 1; a gate (start) terminal 5 and a drain (end or ground) terminal arranged on a same side of the substrate via the intersection P, and non-linear resistor elements 21, 22, 31, 32, wherein since the non-linear elements 31 and 32 are connected between the checking pad 6 and the common electrode 9 and between the checking pad 8 and the common electrode 10, respectively, a current can be discharged from opposite ends of each bus line 3 or 4 to corresponding common electrode 9 or 10 without giving any adverse effect to the wiring checking.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHARLIE PENG whose telephone number is (571)272-2177. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 am - 6 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank G. Font can be reached on (571) 272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Charlie Y. Peng/
Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2883

09/29/2008